

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended claims 2 and 4-6. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Claims 1 and 3 are canceled without prejudice. Accordingly, claims 2 and 4-9 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

2.) Examiner Objections - Claims

Claims 2 and 4 were objected to as being allowable but depending from a rejected base claim. Claims 2 and 4 have been rewritten in independent form by this Response and are now allowable.

3.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b)

Claims 1, 3, 5, and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Anderson et al., (U.S. Patent No. 6,021,202). Claims 1 and 3 have been canceled by this Response, thereby rendering their rejection moot. Claims 5 and 6 have been amended to depend from allowable claims 4 and 2, respectively.

4.) Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing claims 7-9. Claims 2 and 4, which were deemed allowable by the Examiner have been rewritten in independent form. Claim 5 has been amended to depend from independent claim 4 and claim 6 has been amended to depend from independent claim 2. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that currently pending claims 2 and 4-9 are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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